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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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1. The Academy of Foreign Trade of the USSR Foreign Trade Ministry (Akademiya vneshney torgovli ministerstva vneshney torgovli Soyuz SSSR) was located at 4 Babushkin Pereulok, Moscow. The academy was organized in the 1930's for the purpose of training experts for USSR foreign trade. The Foreign Trade Academy was the highest foreign trade educational institution in the USSR.

2.

The Foreign Trade Institute was located in the same building and there was a close relationship between these two educational institutions of the Foreign Trade Ministry. Both used the same lecturers, or at least a number of the same, and the students often met and conversed with each other.

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3. The annual enrollment in the Academy of Foreign Trade was not large and never exceeded 50 students. Only male students were accepted. The candidates had to be Party members and had to have completed higher education (university or institute). The openings for the academy were never announced. The candidates were appointed by the regional Party committees (these were rayon committees) which selected the candidates at their own discretion from among Party members. the Collegium of the Foreign Trade Ministry (Kollegiya ministerstva vneshney torgovli), which was a permanent body of the Foreign Trade Ministry deciding all important problems within the Ministry, decided how

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many candidates and with what skills were to be taken into the academy each year. Normally, the candidates were engineers or had a higher technical education equivalent to an engineer. The list of requirements for candidates (how many candidates would be needed of each type of previous schooling) was prepared by the Collegium and forwarded to the various USSR ministries, who, through rayon Party committees, selected and appointed candidates from their territories. Rayon Party committees were responsible for the political reliability of the selected candidates.

4. Candidates selected for the academy had to pass an entrance examination. [redacted] The length of the course in the academy was three years, the school year beginning in September and ending in June of the next year. July and August were vacation period.

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5. [redacted] on the curriculum of the academy, the following subjects were taught:

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- a. Foreign languages -- English, German, and French. Later Chinese, Korean, Japanese and some other foreign languages were introduced.
- b. Foreign Codes of Law -- mainly commercial legislation. Lecturers in this subject were Professor Doctor of Law LUNTS and Professor MAY, Counselor of the Foreign Trade Ministry.
- c. Political Economy. Lecturer was Professor Doctor KATS, permanent lecturer of the Communist Party Advanced School (Vysshaya partiynaya shkola) in Moscow.
- d. Statistics.
- e. Accounting.
- f. Foreign Trade Techniques (Tekhnika vneshney trgovli).
- g. Economic Geography.
- h. Merchandizing (Tovarovedeniye).
- i. History of Foreign States.
- j. Planning.
- k. Finance.

[redacted] Before World War II the director of the Foreign Trade Academy was Afanasiy Andreyevich ZMEUL; after the war he was appointed director of the Foreign Trade Institute in Moscow.

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6. Students of the Foreign Trade Academy had a dormitory [redacted] and a students' mess which served both the students of the academy and the institute. Some of the students of the Academy of Foreign Trade were housed in the temporarily vacant apartments of foreign trade employees serving abroad. During their stay at the academy students received a stipend from the Foreign Trade Ministry amounting to 1,200 rubles monthly. Students of the academy wore civilian clothes.

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7. After completion of the three-year course, students had to pass a final examination. In most instances, the graduates of the academy were sent abroad as higher officials of the Foreign Trade Ministry. For instance, there were approximately 20 graduates of the Foreign Trade Academy with USIA in Vienna.
8. With a few exceptions the graduates of the Foreign Trade Academy were not very bright and might even be described as stupid individuals. [redacted] ascribe this fact to the Party rigidity in the selection of candidates, the main qualification being the political reliability of the candidate. Since this was the responsibility of the rayon Party committees, these committees probably considered all other qualifications of secondary importance.

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